U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA October 27, 2015

Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail

Location: Three Peaks Special Recreation Management Area Iron County, Utah

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Cedar City Field Office Phone: (435) 865-3000 Fax: (435) 865-3058



FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA), and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

Elizabeth R. Burghard
Cedar City Field Manager

Date

DECISION RECORD

Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA
Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail

Authorities

The authority for this decision is contained in 43 CFR 8342, Designation of Areas and Trails.

Compliance and Monitoring

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will monitor the Outer Limits Trail to ensure compliance with the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the DNA.

Terms / Conditions / Stipulations

The proposed action as described in the attached DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA contains numerous design features to reduce impacts. These design features will be adhered to as part of the decision.

Plan Conformancy and Consistency

The proposed action is subject to the Cedar Beaver Garfield Antimony Resource Management Plan as amended to designate the Greater Three Peaks SRMA (February 24, 2006) and EA UT-040-03-17 dated December 2, 2005, which state(s):

Additional developments and changes in the scope or location of developments could occur within the GTPSRMA over time. Minor changes which would cause unsubstantial impacts could be completed if determined by Determination of NEPA Adequacy document (DNA), to be adequately analyzed by this EA. Changes which could cause impacts beyond those described in the EA would be analyzed in future documents as directed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Alternatives Considered

No other alternatives were considered on public lands, as any impacts from another alternative would likely be greater than those expected from the proposed action.

Public Involvement

The DNA was posted on the BLM public NEPA website (eplanning) on October 21, 2015. No comments have been received.

Decision

It is my decision to approve the Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail as described in the proposed action of the attached DNA.

Rationale for Decision

Approval of the Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail will meet of the purpose and need of the original EA and will not cause unnecessary and undue degradation of public land.

Protest/Appeal

Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at the Cedar City Field Office, 176 East D.L. Sargent Drive Cedar City, UT 84721. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

If you wish to file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(b), the petition for stay should accompany your notice of appeal and shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- 1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied;
- 2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits;
- 3. The likelihood of irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted; and
- 4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and with the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adversely effected party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 6201 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1180, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.

Elizabeth R. Burghard
Cedar City Field Office Manager

10/27/15 Date

Attachments: DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA

Worksheet Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S. Department of the Interior Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

OFFICE: Cedar City Field Office

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Three Peaks SRMA Outer Limits Trail.

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Three Peaks Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Township 35 South, Range 12 West, Sections 11 & 15 Salt Lake Meridian. See attached map for the locations of the trails.

A. Description of the Proposed Action

One new mountain biking trail will be adopted from an existing trail. This will add one mile of trail to the Three Peaks Mountain Biking Trail System. The trail will be named Outer Limits. This will add a unique rout from Orange Forking Trail to Practice Loop.

Construction Specifications and Stipulations

The trail will be adopted and maintained consistent with the Intermountain Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) and BLM guidelines. The purpose of the construction would be to create a sustainable trail that will help prevent erosion, trail braiding, and unmaintained feature hazards.

Vegetation removal would be kept to a minimum when constructing and installing the trail and technical trail features. Minor trimming of brush and trees will occur on the trail to improve the tread, trail corridor and to increase safety. The trail affected by vegetation removal would need to be reclaimed with the appropriate seed mix to ensure that invasive species establishment is reduced in the area.

The trail will have authorized access from both ends of the trail.

The trail will be constructed in a fashion that will prevent fall-line type trail in order to minimize erosion.

Grades will be controlled in a way that a sustainable trail is created. IMBA's five essential elements of a sustainable trail would be implemented to control grade and prevent erosion.

Guidelines for Raptor Protection from Human and Land Use Disturbances (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Field Office, Salt Lake City, Jan. 2002).

Vegetation removal will be minimized during the migratory bird nesting season (April 1st – July 15th) to protect migratory bird breeding and nesting.

South slopes, which generally support relatively sparse vegetation, will be utilized for the trail, when possible, to avoid habitat degradation and trail rutting.

The trail will be constructed in loamy type soils to the maximum extent possible. Silt, clay, and sand would be avoided where possible.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

The proposed action is subject to the Cedar Beaver Garfield Antimony Resource Management Plan as amended to designate the Greater Three Peaks SRMA (February 24, 2006) and EA UT-040-03-17 dated December 2, 2005, which state(s):

Additional developments and changes in the scope or location of developments could occur within the GTPSRMA over time. Minor changes which would cause unsubstantial impacts could be completed if determined by Determination of NEPA Adequacy document (DNA), to be adequately analyzed by this EA. Changes which could cause impacts beyond those described in the EA would be analyzed in future documents as directed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

- Greater Three Peaks Special Recreation Management Area Plan 2006
- Greater Three Peaks Special Recreation Management Area Designation and Recreation Management Plan, Land Use Plan Amendment, Land Exchanges and R&PP Amendment EA, FONSI, and Decision Record UT-040-03-17, 2006

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

No

1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action as previously analyzed?							ij	
<u>X</u> Yes								

The Greater Three Peaks Special Recreation Management Area was analyzed in EA UT-040-03-17 for developments of the area. Some of the key developments are trails for all user groups, facilities, large parking areas, and camp sites.

facilities, large parking areas, and camp sites.
2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?
<u>X</u> Yes
No
The alternatives analyzed in EA UT-040-03-17, 2006 are appropriate and sufficient for the current proposed project. There were two alternatives analyzed in the EA. Alternative A – Proposed Action Alternative was made up of five sections and the section relevant lies under the designation of the GTPSRMA. Current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances remained unchanged. Alternative B analyzed the No Action alternative. No new issues have been raised by the public.
3. Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (including, for example, riparian proper functioning condition [PFC] reports; rangeland health standards assessments; Unified Watershed Assessment categorizations; inventory and monitoring data; most recent Fish and Wildlife Service lists of threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species; most recent BLM lists of sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?
<u>X</u> Yes
No
Since completion of EA UT-040-03-17, the BLM Sensitive Fish and Wildlife list and the USFWS Federally listed and proposed endangered, threatened, and candidate species lists have been updated. The most recent lists were reviewed on 1/15/14 and the Three Peaks area does not provide suitable habitat for greater sage-grouse, least chub, Mexican spotted owl, southwest willow flycatcher, Virgin River chub, western yellow-billed cuckoo, or woundfin. Utah prairie dog habitat within the area remains unoccupied (2013 spring count data); however, a stipulation was added to complete Utah prairie dog surveys in suitable habitat in accordance with USFWS protocols, which were finalized in April, 2010 after completion of the 2006 EA.
4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA documents(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?
<u>X</u> Yes
No

The methodology and analytical approach used in the EA are appropriate for supporting approval of the proposed project, as they use the best scientific information available. Also, no new technologies or methodologies have been developed since the time the EA was approved.

technologies of methodologies have been developed since the time the EA was approved.
5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Do the existing NEPA documents analyze impacts related to the current proposed action at a level of specificity appropriate to the proposal (plan level, programmatic level, project level)?
_X_Yes
No
See chapters 3 and 4 of the EA and the impacts addressed by the attached Interdisciplinary Team NEPA Checklist. Impacts are sufficiently site-specific and detailed in the EA for the level of the proposed project, and would not differ from the EA analysis. Cultural and wildlife surveys would still be completed prior to project implementation.
6. Are the reasonably foreseeable cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)?
<u>X</u> Yes
No
The current proposed project would not change the cumulative impact analysis in the EA. See sections 4.2.3.1 and 4.2.3.2 in the Chapter 4 of the EA.
7. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?
_X_Yes
No

The nature of public involvement in the EA remains in compliance with NEPA public involvement requirements. A committee formulated goals and objectives and management recommendations for the area. Management actions contained in the plan were formulated as a result of those recommendations in an attempt to direct public use to appropriate areas, protect natural resources, and define the transportation routes being utilized by visitors.

This DNA was posted on the BLM public NEPA website (eplanning) on October 21, 2015.

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting analysis or participating in the preparation of this worksheet.

See the attached Interdisciplinary Team NEPA Checklist.

F. Mitigation Measures: List any applicable mitigation measures that were identified, analyzed, and approved in relevant LUPs and existing NEPA document(s). List the specific mitigation measures or identify an attachment that includes those specific mitigation measures. Document that these applicable mitigation measures must be incorporated and implemented.

All required mitigation measures are included in the description of the Proposed Action.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that:

P	lan	Conformance	:

- ☐ This proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan.
- This proposal does not conform to the applicable land use plan

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

- The existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.
- The existing NEPA documentation does not fully cover the proposed action. Additional NEPA documentation is needed if the project is to be further considered.

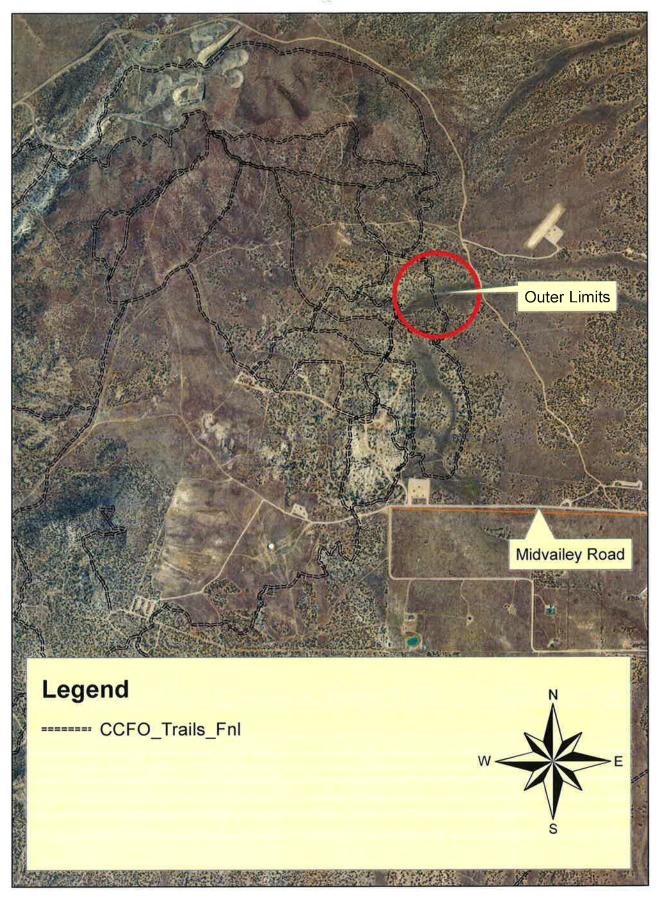
Sig	gnature	of the	Authorized	Officer
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Date

Note: The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision.

Attachments: ID Team Checklist and Trails_DNA_2016_Map

Three Peaks 2016 DNA Map



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INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM NEPA CHECKLIST

Project Title: Three Peaks Trail additions and construction of mountain bike trails

NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2016-0009-DNA

File/Serial Number:

Project Leader: Leisel Whitmore

DETERMINATION OF STAFF: (Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form.

The rationale column should include NI and NP discussions.

RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED:

Determi- nation Resource		Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NC	C Air Quality Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.		J. Reese	10/22/15
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	None within Field Office boundaries.	L. Whitmore	10/21/15
NI	Cultural Resources	The proposed bike route had a Class III inventory in August 2015. No historic properties were located during this inventory. This project will be submitted under the October 2015 quarterly report to SHPO.	Jamie Palmer	10/21/2015
NI	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Greenhouse gamcamsses (GHGs) were not addressed in the original EA. However, with mostly hand work for trail construction, increases in GHG's would be negligible.	J. Reese	10/22/15
NC	Environmental Justice	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15
NC Farmlands Existing a (Prime or Unique)		Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	J. Reese	10/22/15
		Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040- 03-17	S. Whitfield	10/21/15
NC Floodplains		Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	J. Reese	10/22/15
NC Fuels/Fire Management		Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate	M. Mendenhall	10/26/15
Geology / Mineral NC Resources/Energy Production		Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	E. Ginouves	10/26/15
Production NI Hydrologic Condition		Hydrologic conditions were not analyzed in the original EA; however, soils were briefly analyzed on page 33. Essentially the analysis indicated that soils in the area tend to be coarse with relatively high infiltration rates and that single-track trails do not contribute substantially to soil movement. Constructing trails to prescribed standards and avoiding fall line trails would be minimize unnecessary degradation.	J. Reese	10/22/15

NI Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds		Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date	
		Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate. See page 27. Three Peaks SRMA contains random small patches of Scotch thistle and ground disturbance can contribute to weed spread. Monitoring and manual control treatments should occur as part of routine trail compliance monitoring.	J. Bulloch	10/22/15	
NC	Lands / Access	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	M. Campeau	10/26/2015	
NC		Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	J. Reese	10/22/15	
NC	Migratory Birds	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	S. Whitfield	10/21/15	
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Previous consultation with the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (PITU) in this area has not identified any Native American Religious Concerns or sacred sites. The PITU has expressed that new routes should not be named after individuals.	Jamie Palmer	10/21/2015	
NC	Paleontology	Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	E. Ginouves	10/26/15	
NC	Rangeland Health Standards	Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	J. Reese	10/22/15	
NC	Recreation	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040- 03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15	
NC		Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15	
NC		Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	J. Reese	10/22/15	
NC	Special Status Flant	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17. There are no known Special Status Plant Species in the Project Area.	J. Reese	10/22/15	
NC		Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	S. Whitfield	10/21/15	
	Wastes (hazardous or solid)				
NC	Water Resources/Quality (drinking/surface/ground)	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	J. Reese	10/22/15	
NP	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Wetlands/Riparian Zones are not present near the proposed trail.	A. Stephens	10/26/15	
NI	Wild and Scenic Rivers	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040- 03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15	
NP	I W/IIderness/W/SA I	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15	
NI	Woodland / Forestry	Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	C. Peterson	10/23/15	
NI	Vegetation	Existing analysis from EA UT-040-03-17 is adequate.	J. Reese	10/22/15	
NC	Visual Resources	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040- 03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15	
NC	Wild Horses and Burros	Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040- 03-17	C. Hunter	10/26/15	

Determi- nation	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NP Areas with Wilderness Exists Characteristics 03-17		Existing analysis sufficient and unchanged from EA UT-040-03-17	L. Whitmore	10/21/15

FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Signature		Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	Kurak	Junes	10/27/15	
Authorized Officer	Elizabo	LR Burghar	1 10/2	7/15